June 5, 2017

Scituate Recreation Commission

Attendees: Dave Smith, Dan Fennelly, Anne Vegnani, Maura Glancy, Jacqueline Comerford

Tony Vegnani, Marla Minier, Howard Mathews, Rich Minier, Chris Roberts, Sean O’Connor

Meeting called to order 7pm

Trail Maintenance – Marla Minier - there is only one person who maintains trails for the Pipes Trail, Memorial Trail, Bates Lane Conservation and Ellis property. They have developed new trails on McAlister and Damon. Once they are approved they can be cleared and mapped. They went to five different communities to learn how they are maintaining their trails and created a report. There is a proposal for the next CPC meeting for parking and kiosks for trails. This group is asking for money to create the trail-maps and money to make paper maps. They are also looking to have a bridge built and signage for marking the trails. They are looking for support from Recreation Dept for their CPC ask. Dave asked if they had budget numbers, but Maura said they were not far enough along to have numbers yet. They are working on getting those now and trying to get application in by July 1 to get in for a fall special town meeting so that satellite mapping could be done when there are no leaves on the trees. Dave asked if there were issues with building bridges on conservation land and they said they had experience doing this on past trails and there were no issues. All work is done in conjunction with Conservation Commission. They’re trying to expand the trails. Trails will be dog friendly.

Lisa Fenton has a website called scituatehistoricaltrails.com and once these are done they will be added to her website. Tony asked if there was any money left on that article. Dan said he believes it was scrubbed except for a few recent purchase orders. Next CPC meeting is next Monday, June 12th. Dan suggested they need to include consideration for maintenance on these trails. They are looking into the adopt-a-trail programs.

Maura suggested that maps or organized-walking-groups to come through the Recreation Department again. Maura would need to hire someone who could lead these groups. Dave asked for consideration for ADA compliance.

Dan made a motion to write a letter in support of the program for the CPC. Second: Jacqueline Comerford. Dave will write the letter.

Boats – Maura – Boats should be delivered by June 13th. She needs 7-8 people to unload and she thinks she has enough counselors to get it done. Maura said they don’t know what to do with the old boats. The school doesn’t seem to be interested in them. We think we’d need to go to auction to sell them.

Field Coordinator Report – Anne – During this spring/summer permitting there were a few things that came up that fell outside of the current policy and there was confusion from some of the users feeling like things had changed so Anne wants to review the policy with the Commission and have them decide what policy they want and how to enforce. It appears in the past there have been youth organization coaches that have used the fields for free even though the make-up of their programs is not in compliance with our policy. The current policy states that all for-profit/non-resident groups with at least 50% Scituate residents get charged $125/hour. Football and soccer both have private camps where coaches are getting paid, and they have been doing this historically so it’s come up as an issue this year. The Recreation Commission feels that the condition of our fields is so poor that we should not be hosting anyone from out of town. The commission discussed the need for sports programs to hire outside companies to supplement weekly-coaching – which they feel is an example of a non-profit sponsoring a for-profit program. It is essentially part of the cost of running their program. We feel that any for-profit companies should not be using the fields. For-profit programs take away from SRD programming. RC discussed need to increase fee rental costs and the need to ensure that anytime any field is used there are full CORI checks and proof of insurance. SRC agreed to uphold current policy.

SRC asked Field Coordinator to ensure that anyone renting fields has CORI’d coaching and liability insurance. Any non-profit that is pulling permits and sponsoring a for-profit takes on the CORI responsibility and liability insurance.

Suggestion was made to have field policies and rental policies right on the SRD website.

Directors Report – Maura – St Luke’s lease expired and we’re supposed to be able to get into the Community Harbor Building but we haven’t been able to get in. Tony will check with town office to find out when it’s available for SRD use. Questions around programming at Gates and we need the school to acquiesce ownership so that SRD can continue programming uninterrupted. Maura needs to know which date she takes over her space. Maura wants to move air conditioners in over at Gates that she’s had at Jenkins.

Softball field is two weeks behind. Should be done in 2 weeks. Maura has to discuss maintenance with DPW so that grass doesn’t come through

Playground update – when plans were done the WPA septic system wasn’t identified on the engineers plans. The playground is on the leeching fields. The engineer didn’t find it because the leeching field wasn’t filed. Board of Health is giving us advice tomorrow.

Field Use – Jacqueline - Made presentation to Board of Selectmen two weeks ago, well received by Board. Met with Gordon Price (FoSS) about potentially joining forces, when/where possible as our projects merge. Got some estimates back from engineers on cost of study and it came in at $42,250. Group suggested we go back and try to negotiate lower and call other engineers for other estimates because group thought estimates could vary.

CPC Report – Dan - 10 projects from previous years where there is money left over; this is after all inactive projects had been rescinded. Recreation bucket has $3M unallocated. CPC is considering taking applications all year round instead of having a yearly deadline. Money approved in special town meetings is available immediately.

Meeting adjourned Dave Smith 8:55, Second Dan. Unanimous.